

CIA-Vietnam, S.

Org 1 International  
Business Machines

POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y.

JOURNAL

MAR 28 1970

E - 35,739

S - 41,003

## Vassar Group Plans Protest Of Defense Contracts Of IBM

A group of Vassar College faculty members and students, calling themselves the Committee on IBM's Corporate Responsibility (CICR), will seek to introduce an anti-war resolution into the stockholders' meeting of the International Business Machines Corp., in Atlanta on April 27.

The resolution would compel IBM to reject contracts with the Department of Defense until "all United States armed forces personnel and all military operations personnel of the Central Intelligence Agency are irrevocably withdrawn from the Republic of Vietnam."

The committee intends to ask IBM stockholders to sign their proxies over to them in support of the resolution.

David E. Novack, an assistant professor of economics at Vassar and spokesman for the group, calls the move "part of an exciting new phase of the anti-war movement."

"For six years we've been demanding that the government end the war in Vietnam," he

said, "and little has happened. Now we intend to confront the companies that produce the materials that make the war possible."

IBM, Novack explained, was the 27th largest military contractor in fiscal 1969, with \$257 million in Defense Department business. As part of the increasing computerization of the Vietnam War, the company has manufactured everything from bomb-sights for B-52 bombers to data-processing systems for military bases.

And yet, if it wanted to do so, IBM could end its role as a war producer without major economic dislocation, he continued. Military work in 1969 comprised only about 4 per cent of IBM's gross income of \$7 billion.

According to Novack, CICR also intends to leaflet and organize in support of the resolution throughout the Mid-Hudson region, where IBM has many of its major research installations.

"This is not an attack on

IBM," Novack emphasized. "It is an attack on production for war. IBM, and all corporations, will simply have to accept responsibility for what they produce and how it is used."

The Committee on IBM's Corporate Responsibility is an independent organization that operates without the official sanction of Vassar College.